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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/821,584

04/09/2004

Terrance P. Snutch

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09/30/2008

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP

12531 HIGH BLUFF DRIVE

SUITE 100

SAN DIEGO, CA 92130-2040

EXAMINER

KADAMBI, GEETA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1614

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/30/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/821,584

Applicant(s)

SNUTCH ET AL.

Examiner

GEETA KADAMBI

Art Unit

1614

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-5, 7-9 and 11-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 6 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :10/4/04,3/24/05,10/1/05,4/19/06,9/12/06,4/11/08.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-17 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of species in the reply filed on 6/23/2008 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

The examiner made a phone verification with the attorney Kate H. Murashige on 8/12/2008 and verified the restriction election being non compliant because the first claim reads n3=1-4. The attorney suggested that in the first claim n3= 1-4 be read as n3= 0-4 for action on merits. The attorney will make the necessary amendments to the claim in response to the current office action.

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 encompass the elected species. Claims 3-5, 7-9 and 11-17 are withdrawn from further consideration. The election restriction is made final.

Double Patenting

Statutory Type

2. A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

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A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

3. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-17 of prior **U.S. Patent No. 6949554 (provided by applicant, IDS 4/19/2006)**. This is a double patenting rejection.

The claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 in the instant application are identical to the claims 1-17 in '554. Although the applicant has made a species election and elected P1 (instant specification) the broad or generic claim 1 in '554 fully encompasses on the instant claim 1 including the species elected by the applicant. However, '554 claims compounds P49 and P50 in Fig 1 of their specification and they are absent from the specification of '554. Compound P49 however has the support in their stated broad claim. The instant application specification shows the presence of the compound P49 and P50 on Fig 1, pg 8. Broad claim 1 of '554 also fully encompasses compound P49 of the instant claim by stating the presence of –OH group even though compound P49 is absent in their specification.

Obviousness Type

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29

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USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thornton*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 1-2, 6 and 10 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 26 and 27 of U.S. **Patent No. 6951862 (provided by applicant, IDS 4/19/2006).**

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the species of compounds delineated by present claims 1, 2, 6 and 10 are clearly provided by patented claim 26 (that depend from claim 1) and 27. '862 does not teach the compounds P49 and P50 or the stereoisomer of formula 1 as claimed instant claim 1, however the broad claim 1 of '862 reads on compound P49 having a -OH group.

The examiner has noted a large number of patent applications by the applicants in regards to this specific subject matter. Examiner wishes to remind applicants of his/her duty to disclose all relevant applications, patent publication applications, and patents that are relevant to applicant's current application.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed. All claims are rejected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GEETA KADAMBI whose telephone number is (571)270-5234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin H. Marschel can be reached on 571-272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

GEETA KADAMBI
Examiner
Art Unit 1614

/Ardin Marschel/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1614

